

HEADQUARTERS

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SUBJECT: 2020 CT WING WINTER ENCAMPMENT AND COVID-19

CAP Senior Members, Cadets and Cadet Parents:

As we all know due to the COVID-19 Pandemic encampments and other cadet activities normally taking place during the summer months were cancelled, including the annual Connecticut Encampment held every August. The Connecticut Wing will however be hosting a winter encampment during the week of 26-30 December 2020 at Camp Nett in Niantic, CT. Because of the uncertainty of the current health crisis and military and CAP regulations, we have had to set rules and procedures to assure the best interest and safety of our members. This letter will highlight our decision and provide valuable information for your reference when choosing to attend or, if you are a parent, whether to send you cadet to the event.

First, while we have enough bunks to house a good number of members, we are following current guidelines on distancing and thus we will be unable to register as many cadets as we have in the past. We are also restricting who can attend the encampment to members of the Northeast Region, primarily because the State of Connecticut continues to require a two-week quarantine period for many states outside this region.

The following are other limitations and items of note for your reference:

- Registration is limited to the first 200 cadets.
- All members attending the encampment must supply enough protective masks to last the entire program period.
- All members attending must arrive in good health; temperatures will be taken, and a
 health status form must be completed at sign in. It is recommended that anyone
 participating in the encampment consider a voluntary two-week self-quarantine leading
 up to the event.
- Should state, CAP or military requirements (the CT National Guard) impose new restrictions on the number of attendees (i.e. less than 200 persons) or any other requirement before the encampment, we reserve the right to add additional rules and restrictions and also to reduce previously accepted registrants to meet those restrictions.
- Should the encampment need to reduce the attendance of members, the priority will be based on what cadets are closest to a milestone which requires an encampment, the rank of a cadet, for example a cadet Technical Sergeant would receive preference over a cadet Airman First Class.
- Cadets and parents should be aware that the State, National Guard or CAP, could cancel the encampment at any time due to COVID or military needs, if this occurs, all members will be fully refunded their encampment registrations.

- Should a member decide to personally withdraw from the encampment voluntarily they will be refunded their registration minus any fees.
- Should a member become ill, show signs of possible illness, or tests positive two weeks before encampment they must notify the encampment command staff immediately

In the interest of safety, the following precautions will be taking place:

- Temperatures of all members in attendance will be taken daily
- Prior to the encampment all surfaces, tables, etc. will be cleansed daily
- All kitchen and dining area staff will be masked and wear protective gloves at all times, all tables and chairs will be sanitized before and after each meal
- Bottles of hand sanitizers will be placed at strategic locations throughout the encampment
- Should any member become ill, we will have a specially designated area for them to rest until dismissed from the encampment
- Graduation ceremony plans including the number of people outside the encampment who will be permitted to attend will not be announced until much closer to the dates of the encampment due to the fluid COVID-19 situation
- Parents will sign an acknowledgement form at registration which will stipulate the guidelines that will be adhered to and attest to the health of their cadet.

These are uncertain times, however, at the moment we are planning for a successful and safe encampment for all. All precautions will be made to ensure the safety of all of our members and we will keep registered members notified of any changes. To reiterate: Because of local, State, National Guard and CAP oversight and overall risk management, the Connecticut Wing reserves the right to cancel the encampment or reduce the number of attendees at any time due to restrictions or safety concerns of our members. Should the situation improve which would allow cadets from outside the Northeast Region to attend, we will notify and publicize this fact so that they may take advantage of it should they wish.

We look forward to seeing our cadets at the Winter encampment and promise to provide a good experience despite these unexpected and unpredictable challenges. Should you have any questions, please email encampment@ctwg.cap.gov.

Very respectfully,

JANICE DAVIAULT Lieutenant Colonel, CAP Encampment Commander